October 4, 1959

Dear Lou:

It has taken me a couple of days to wrestle with the problem you brought up in connection with xxxxxxxxx paper.

If you can make strain ST-2 freely available, there is every reason for you to publish your paper as it stands. While an important element is missing, I accept your judgment that there is no help for it, and whatever you can put out you have the responsibility (more than the privilege) of doing. The present wording is bound to raise questions, and I would suggest you find some way of referring to its origin if even the most general terms. However, I leave this to your judgment. As a way of ensuring the distribution of the strain xxxxxxx, I think you might consider depositing it with the American Type Culture Collection in Washington

If for any reason, ST-2 itself is unavailable, any of its progeny which can transfer the unique 'F' would do as well; it might then be advantageous for you to recast the paper around this strain.

So if this condition holds -- and I gather it does from the tone of your letter -- please make use of the letter of transmittal I sent you. If there is more to talk about why don't you call me up (DA-1-1200 Ext 5052), or make some excuse to come out here: perhaps you'd prefer to wait until the snow flies for that!

I don't want to press this in connection with the above; quite apart from that I would appreciate your sending us this strain, as it would furnish quite a shortcut in some strain development for the problem we discussedbefore, going over the H_1-H_2 analysis again.

Norton Zinder told me something about getting TM-2 to cross freely once it had gotten any F from any strain. I assume this is xxxx not your experience.

I thought I might be in Washington myself in a couple of weeks, but the meeting has been switched elsewhere.

Best wishes,

PS: As a factor in BW, consider how much we rely on serological and cultural criteria to identify pathogens. It would be a cute trick someone could play on us to take a virulent typhi and cloak it with the surface appearance of some ordinary E coli-- assuming this did not impair its virulence.